The Tip of the Tongue (part two)

The
articulation point of the

These
letters are pronounced from the top side of the tip of the tongue and the gum
line of the two front upper incisors. The gum line is exactly where the gum
meets the teeth. The part of the
tongue used in these letters is a small part of the top of the tip, not any
farther back than the very tip

area.
Common mistakes in these letters

The
mistake that occurs most often in these letters is using the soft elevated
area behind the gum instead of the gum line. The English “t” and “d” are articulated at this position which
is further back in the mouth than the Arabic
and
. When these letters are
emitted back too far, their sound gets heavy. Another problem that may occur in all of the letters in this group is
not using just the top of the tip, but instead using a large portion of the
top of the tongue. This is common
in Urdu speaking Muslims as well as native English speakers, and it
contributes to a heavy sounding letter.

is a letter that has both
tafkheem (heaviness) and sticks to the roof of the mouth. It is the strongest of all the letters of the Arabic
language. The most common mistake
(outside of the above mistakes) in this letter is not getting it strong
enough, as well as not sticking most of the tongue up to the roof of the mouth
while pronouncing it. Since this
letter is not common to many languages, it needs practice to be proficient in
its proper articulation. Listening
to a known accomplished reciter can assist in learning the proper sound for the
.